

COUNTRY East Germany

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Oranienburg Airfield

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT.

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DATE OBTAINED.

RED 28 July 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Almost all leading personnel of the Bauunion Leipzig at Oranienburg airfield were Saxons [redacted]
Construction superintendent: Georg Ruhland, about 40 years old, who was rather popular among the workers, and is not a SED member.
Foreman in charge of excavation work: Karl Heinz Koellner, about 40 years of age, war invalid, who was described as a good construction man and is not a SED member.
Transportation officer: Karl Metzner, about 50 years of age, trustworthy, and is not a communist.
In charge of excavation work: Popp (fnu) about 60 years of age, agreeable and without political ambition.
Foreman in charge of concreting work: Alfred Adler from Dessau, about 45 years of age
Foreman in charge of carpentry work: Knauer (fnu), member of the executive board of the SED, second chairman of the employees' council.
Chairman of the employees council: Hebold (fnu).
SED chairman: Wolter (fnu). foreman of the common laborers.

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2. Between 3 and 15 June, the manager of the Bauunion Leipzig, the construction superintendent and other personnel conferred with Soviet Lieutenant Colonel Romanenko (fnu) who had refused to accept the runway, which showed considerable cracks, hollows and bulges. One of those who attended the conference stated that Romanenko had had a piece of concrete broken out of the new and old runway sections respectively said: "Hitler concrete good, new concrete very bad." The conference resulted in an order being given, that all defects on the main runway would immediately be repaired regardless of the time involved.

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4. In early June, [redacted] the chief of the Soviet construction staff at Oranienburg airfield was Lieutenant Colonel Romanenko who was about 50 years of age and apparently was stationed at Gross Doelln. Other members of the construction staff were chief engineer Mayer or Maier (fnu), about 50 years, engineer Ruhlard, 35 to 40 years, and engineer Ochmann (fnu), 35 to 40 years old. In early June, there was

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Comment. Information was received previously that damages were observed on the newly improved runway at Oranienburg airfield. The date of August 1953 fixed for completion of the entire construction project probably will not be met.

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